RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) PROJECT FACT SHEET

OCTOBER 1994

HNC REVISION: 15 JANUARY 1998 TAG REVIEW DATE: 4 FEBRUARY 1998

1. SITE NAME: Great Neck Target Range

SITE NUMBER: D01MA045000

LOCATION:

City:

Mashpee Barr County: Barnstable County

Massachusetts State:

PROJECT NUMBER: D01MA045001

CATEGORY: ΟE

INPR RAC:

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 3

2. POC'S:

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ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

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Office: SIOAC-ESL Phone: 815-273-8739 3. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Great Neck Target Range consists of 229 acres, included in South Cape Beach State Park, near Mashpee, Barnstable County, Massachusetts. It is located approximately two hours drive from Boston, Massachusetts on Cape Cod peninsula. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is the current owner of the site which is used for recreational and environmental purposes. The site and adjoining areas are crowded with summertime visitors.

The area is characterized by flat land with dunes of two to three feet at most. The entire area is at an elevation only a few feet above the beaches. Bushes, forbs, and grasses cover much of the area above the beaches. The site is part of Waquoit Bay and its watershed. Groundwater flows beneath the entire watershed and eventually empties into the bay. There is no flowing surface water within the area. However there is standing water in Sage Lot Pond and swampy land.

The Atlantic Ocean exerts a moderating influence on the climate of the area so that the start and end of the warm period of the year are somewhat delayed. In winter, the ground is frequently covered with snow and the average temperature is 31° F. The summer average is 68 degrees.

4. SITE HISTORY: The Navy acquired 229 acres of leasehold by condemnation for use as a practice bombing range by Quonset Point Naval Air Station. The first acquisition was for 115.1 acres leasehold on 5 February 1945. On 23 March 1948, the Navy condemned 229 acres leasehold, which included the original 115.1 acre parcel. In addition to being called Great Neck Target Range, other names for the site included the Practice Bombing Area, Mashpee, Massachusetts and Mashpee Island Bombing Target Range. The only evidence of construction at the site was for building of targets.

Navy use of the site ended around 1949. The original leasehold over 115.1 acres terminated in 1946. The 229-acre leasehold terminated in June 1949. The land was then in private hands until the state acquired the site. On 14 December 1982, Massachusetts, through an "Order of Taking" and the exercise of eminent domain, established South Cape Beach. The property acquired, 400 acres, included all of the 229 acres once used by the U.S. Navy. The site is still owned by Massachusetts and is managed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

AREA A

Size, Acres: 4.13

Former Use: Target for practice bombs

Present Use: State Park
Probable End Use: State Park
Ordnance Presence: Confirmed

Type: 3 lb practice bombs

AREA B

Size, Acres: 224.87

Former Use: Navy practice bomb range

Present Use: State Park
Probable End Use: State Park
Ordnance Presence: Potential

Type: 3 lb practice bombs

6. CURRENT STATUS: The Archives Search Report for Great Neck Target Range was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, in October 1994.

7. STRATEGY:

AREA A: RAC 3;ESI
AREA B: RAC 3;ESI

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and has determined that the best strategy would be RAC 3, ESI based on historical findings that the site was designated as a practice bomb target. The only historical record of any OE related finds at this site, other than small arms ammunition residue, was provided by EOD personnel from Otis ANGB, MA: a solid inert grenade with no place for a fuze and a three pound practice bomb without a spotting charge. These items might have been washed onto the site by a hurricane. Evidence indicates that if the site was used for practice bombing, it was for a rather short period of time. Interviews indicate that the site may have been used by the military to practice beach landings, although more than one person stated that this training was confined to another location, Washburn Island. The SI Team did not see any signs of OE at the site.

Area A, Target: This area was identified by one of the persons interviewed. The one practice bomb was found at this location.

Area B, Bomb Range: Several persons interviewed stated that bombing practice was not conducted at this site: bombing

practice observed by some witnesses occurred over water. So there is some doubt regarding the degree of utilization of this site for bombing practice. One person stated that the target at the site was "sheets suspended between poles". This would indicate the target could have been for gunnery practice.

Natural Resources: Federally- and State-threatened species occur within the site area. They are listed in ASR Findings, para 3f and Table 3-1, pages 5-6. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may still be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

Historical Resources: No cultural or historical resources exist at the site. However, any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office and/or other like organizations.

- 9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: ESI
- 10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only